

## Message Text

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12  
ORIGIN EB-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66611  
DRAFTED BY: EB/AN:JBMAGNOR:DAP  
APPROVED BY: EB/AN:MHSTYLES  
----- 110760  
R 042325Z NOV 74  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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FOLLOWING REPEAT MANILA 12967 ACTION SECSTATE 1 NOVEMBER.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 12967

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: EAIR, RP  
SUBJECT: CIVAIR - PHILIPPINE PROPOSAL FOR NEW TALKS

REF: (A) STATE 238569  
(B) MANILA 12872

1. DEPT'S NEGATIVE REACTION TO PHILIPPINE PROPOSAL FOR CIVAIR TALKS IN NOVEMBER WILL BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE PHILIPPINES, AND, IN THE EMBASSY'S JUDGEMENT, IS IMPRUDENT AND UNNECESSARY. IN THE FIRST PLACE, WE ARE BOUND BY OUR EXCHANGE OF NOTES DATED AUGUST 10 TO HOLD SUCH TALKS WITHIN NINETY DAYS. IN THE SECOND PLACE, WE CANNOT REPEAT NOT PLEASE A "BUSY SCHEDULE" SINCE THESE TALKS HAVE, IN ESSENCE, BEEN "SCHEDULED" FROM THE DATE THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED. THE PHIL REACTION WILL, THEREFORE, BE THAT A REFUSAL TO MEET CONSTITUTES BAD FAITH AND A RENEGING ON OUR AGREEMENT. THEY WOULD DOUBTLESS CONTEND THAT U.S. DEFAULT WOULD RELIEVE THEM OF THEIR OBLIGATION TO EXTEND FLYING TIGER OR PAN AM CARGO PERMITS, AND WE WOULD DESCEND INTO THE SORT  
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OF MESSY SITUATION WHICH HAS, UNFORTUNATELY, CHARACTERIZED SO

MUCH OF PAST US/RP CIVIL AIR HISTORY.

2. OUR STRONG RECOMMENDATION IS THAT DEPT EXPRESS ITS WILLINGNESS MEET WITH ASPIRAS AND UNDERTAKE APPROPRIATE DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON WHICH CAN BE CHARACTERIZED AS FULFILLING OUR OBLIGATION TO RESUME TALKS. IF, IN THE COURSE OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS, IT APPEARS POSSIBLE TO LIVE WITH A CONTINUATION OF CURRENT SITUATION FOR A PERIOD OF TIME WITHOUT DAMAGE TO THE INTERESTS OF OUR CARRIERS (ESPECIALLY THE CARGO CARRIERS) DELAY WOULD THEN APPEAR FEASIBLE.

3. WE WISH TO REMIND DEPT THAT A FULL DRESS FOLLOW-ON ROUND OF TALKS WAS USG'S IDEA, THROUGH WHICH WE DRAGGED THE FILIPINOS WRIGGLING AND PROTESTING, IF NOT KICKING AND SCREAMING, ALL THE WAY. PHILS WILL AT MINIMUM BE VERY SUSPICIOUS OF OUR MOTIVES AND AT WORST CONSIDER THAT WE ARE ACTING IN BAD FAITH.

4. RE SUSPICIONS OF MOTIVES, IT WILL ALSO BE RECALLED THAT THE STATUS QUO ON ALL CARGO OPERATIONS, AS WORKED OUT IN THE AGREEMENT AND AS EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT MARCOS IN THE FINAL SETTLEMENT, WAS EXPLICITLY TIED TO FUTURE TALKS ON THE SCHEDULE STATED IN THE INTERIM ARRANGEMENT. BINDING THE STATUS QUO FOR THE INDEFINITE FUTURE, WHILE IT MAY WELL BE THE MOST ATTRACTIVE DEAL WE COULD ARRANGE, IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES, AND THE PHILS WILL TRY TO KNOCK US OFF THIS WICKET, MOST LIKELY BY HARRASSING CARGO OPERATIONS AND/OR KEEPING THEM ON A VERY SHORT TETHER.

5. WE WOULD AGREE WITH THE IMPLICATION REF (A) THAT PRESSURE FROM COMBINATION CARRIERS FOR EXPANSION BEYOND ADDITIONAL CAPACITY SCHEDULED FOR APIRIL 1975 IS NOT FORESEEABLY ACUTE. DECISION HINGES FOR THE TIME BEING, THEREFORE, ON HOW WE HANDLE THE CARGO ISSUES.

6. THE SOLUTION RECOMMENDED ABOVE KEEPS THE HEAT ON PHIL CAB TO LEAVE CARGO OPERATIONS ALONE AND PROVIDES A DEFINITE TIMETABLE WHICH CAN BE USED TO KEEP PAL FROM CARPING TOO MUCH. IT ALSO KEEPS US HONEST.  
SULLIVAN UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, AIR CARGO, NEGOTIATIONS, AVIATION AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE242589  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EB/AN:JBMAGNOR:DAP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740316-0898  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741172/aaaacjju.tel  
**Line Count:** 99  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** (A) STATE 238569  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09-Aug-2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <11 DEC 2002 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CIVAIR - PHILIPPINE PROPOSAL FOR NEW TALKS  
**TAGS:** EAIR, RP, US, PANAM, FLYING TIGER AIRLINES  
**To:** BANGKOK  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005